

MUSIC

The thought of taking my understanding and appreciation of music to a higher level makes the hard study in all of my subjects worthwhile. For many years my knowledge and enjoyment of the subject has developed and grown, and the skills I have gained from both the practical side and academic side at A Level have helped me develop not only further in music but in other subjects as well. I began studying the practical aspect at the age of 7 on the Violin which I have gained grade 5 standard. This developed into learning the piano at the age of 10 where I have also gained grade 5 standard and I am still developing my skills further. My main musical instrument is my voice, I aim to achieve grade 8 in vocal performance before the end of the academic year. Singing has challenged me to be confident, stand centre stage and express music with clarity and emotion, as a singer there is defiantly nowhere to hide. By being involved in such different aspects of music, it has helped me gain experiences and opportunities that I don't think I would have gained otherwise, like performing in the Birmingham Symphony Hall competing on a national level. Through both GCSE and A level I have continuously studied the art of composition, and although I have needed to work exceedingly hard to create the pieces I have, I've enjoyed every aspect of it. At AS level, as I had the chance to enter one of my own songs, I was involved with the entire process thus giving me the experience in creating and recording music. As well as the practical and compositional aspect of the course I have also been given the experience of studying music scores throughout my A level course. I have studied various pieces from Beethoven and Ravel to the Beatles and Queen. This part of my course has helped me gain an analytical insight into the techniques and ideas behind the music which helped me increasingly in my own compositions.

Along with music I have studied 3 other subjects, History, English and Welsh. Getting good grades is not something that comes naturally to me, however I am extremely hard working and I take pride in the fact that my hard work continues to pay off through my grades and music is no exception. Welsh as a subject has offered me many opportunities concerning music, I have performed in the National Eisteddford and I have also vocally performed in my school's St. David's day celebrations through the medium of Welsh. Music has always been not just a subject or a hobby, it has engrossed every aspect of my life and that is how I would like it to stay, I am happy to put the time and effort into understanding and receiving the grades I want as I enjoy the things I am doing.

Whilst being in school I have continued to take an active role in extracurricular activities. I have helped with the lower school choir developing their skills and confidence. I have also helped organise various activities in school with Children in Need including the sixth form show which is performed for the rest of the school. This year I am working as sound director along with working on our sound equipment to give me more experience on different musical equipment. I have also helped out at a local youth group for a term which has helped me develop my skills with working with younger people which I really enjoyed and got a lot out of. I also have a part time job working in a jewellery store. This job is extremely entertaining as I have met many different characters and personalities but also it has helped me develop skills such as working with money and ordering stock, being trusted with these responsibilities has given me a great deal of pride and I know I'm a hardworking and trusted employee.

I have been a keen and enthusiastic student throughout my academic career and hope to continue that into higher education. By studying music I hope to continue to grow and develop my passion and knowledge of music as well as taking an active role in university and student life.